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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2003, at 2 p.m.

Senate

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2003

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by the guest Chaplain, Dr. Richard Roth of Falls Church, VA.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Standing in Your presence on this winter morning, Gracious God, we affirm with our forefathers that You have not only created us, but You sustain us each day. So with the psalmist of old, we proclaim, "This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it."

Our Senators will face again today matters of such import that differences and conflict will be natural. In this arena, where vision and reality collide freely, may clear heads prevail. We are grateful for the freedom to challenge ideas and debate issues and for that freedom, we will rejoice and be glad.

This moment in history weighs heavy in this chamber and around Capitol Hill, so we ask for wisdom beyond experience and a fresh touch of Your grace. In a world on edge, as diplomats talk and warriors make ready in the pursuit of needed security, we pray that a peaceful resolution will come. With hope in our hearts, Lord, we submit ourselves to You. You are now and forever our Prince of Peace. For Your presence among us we will rejoice and be glad.

In Your Holy Name, we pray. Amen.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. This morning I would like to ask the distin-

guished assistant minority leader to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HARRY REID led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 12:30 p.m., with the time equally divided and Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished majority leader.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today there will be a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m., with the time equally divided and Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes.

Last night, I closed saying that I remain hopeful an agreement can be

reached as soon as possible with respect to the committee resolution which, very simply, allows us to proceed with Senate business and with appointment of our committees and the chairmen.

Again, as I mentioned last night, I want to put my colleagues on notice that if we are unable to reach accord in a short period of time, it will be my intent to begin consideration of the resolution. Again, it is very simple. It just names the chairmen and the Republican members of the committees. In addition, the appropriations process for fiscal year 2003 absolutely must be completed.

Members should be aware that the Senate will finish these matters or it will be necessary to return after the holiday on Monday and be in session through next week. I mentioned that last night in closing. But again I want to make sure my colleagues understand that we have two matters that are of critical importance to the fundamental organization of this body, No. 1; and, No. 2, on the appropriations bills that are the unfinished business from last year, we have an obligation to the American people to complete.

As the negotiations progress over the course of the morning—and, again, discussions continued well into the evening last night and began early this morning—as those negotiations progress, I will advise the Senate about the day's schedule.

Rollcall votes are, therefore, possible each day this week, including Friday, and it may be necessary to begin to have late evenings until we complete the appropriations bill.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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